

supramundane uninterrupted paths of the path of meditation which *irrevocably* eliminates any of the seventh, eighth, or ninth types of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm. Either way, since it is an uninterrupted path in the continuum of an *approacher to the result of non-returner*, it does not eliminate mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm and their supramundane counterparts simultaneously.

In brief, *approachers to the result of non-returner who are Gradual-Attainers* and *special abiders in the result of once-returner who are Gradual-Attainers* are equivalent. Therefore, Gradual-Attainers who abide, for instance, on the seventh mundane uninterrupted path of the preparatory stage of the first concentration that temporarily eliminates the seventh type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm are both *approachers to the result of non-returner* and *special abiders in the result of once-returner*. They are both, because they abide on an uninterrupted path which mainly strives to attain the result of non-returner.

Yet Gradual-Attainers who abide on the seventh mundane uninterrupted path of the preparatory stage of the first concentration that temporarily eliminates the seventh type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm are *approachers to the result of once-returner* only for as long as they abide on that mundane uninterrupted path.

The moment they attain the seventh mundane *path of release* of the preparatory stage of the first concentration that achieves the temporary cessation of the seventh type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm, they cease to be *approachers to the result of non-returner* as well as *special abiders in the result of once-returner*. Instead, they become *simple abiders in the result of once-returner*.

Then, when these Gradual-Attainers generate, for instance, the eighth mundane uninterrupted path (of the preparatory stage of the first concentration) that temporarily eliminates the eighth mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm, they again become *approachers to the result of non-returner* (as well as *special abiders in the result of once-returner*).

After alternating between being *approachers to the result of non-returner* and *simple abiders in the result of once-returner*, these Gradual-Attainers become *approachers to the result of non-returner* for the last time when they generate, for instance, the ninth mundane uninterrupted path that temporarily eliminates the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm. While they abide on that mundane uninterrupted path, they are *approachers to the result of non-returner* for the last time, because a moment later they attain the ninth mundane *path of release* that achieves the temporary cessation of the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm. The first moment of the temporary cessation of the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm marks the first moment of the result of non-returner. Therefore, from that moment onwards, Gradual-Attainers are *abiders in the result of non-returner* and thus can no longer become *approachers to the result of non-returner*. Instead, the next time they generate an uninterrupted path that temporarily or irrevocably eliminates any of the innate afflictions they had not previously eliminated yet, they become *approachers to the result of foe-destroyer*.

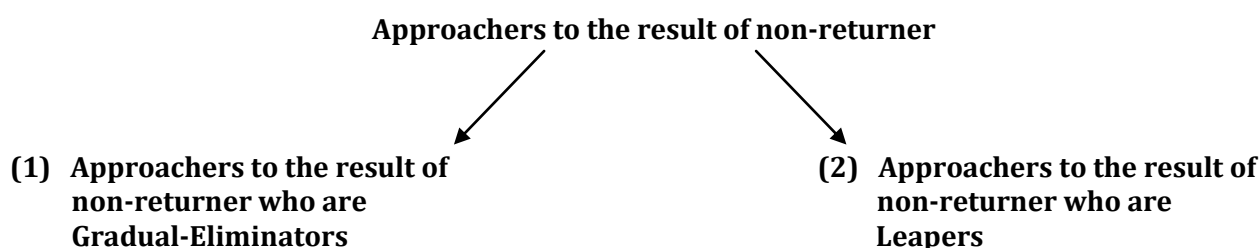
2) *Approachers to the result of non-returner who are Leapers*

Approachers to the result of non-returner who are Leapers (*'bras bu thod rgal ba'i phyir mi 'ong zhugs pa*) are Hinayana Aryas who abide on the uninterrupted path of the path of seeing and who eliminated the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm prior to reaching the path of seeing. Hence, while they abide on the uninterrupted path of the path of seeing, they are *approachers to the result of non-returner who are Leapers*.

They are not approachers to the result of stream-enterer because, as mentioned above, approachers to the result of stream-enterer are characterized by being Hinayana Aryas on the uninterrupted path of the path of seeing who did not temporarily eliminate the sixth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm prior to reaching the path of seeing. Also, they are not *approachers to the result of once-returner who are Leapers*, because *approachers to the result of once-returner who are Leapers* are characterized by being Hinayana Aryas on the uninterrupted path of the path of seeing who did not temporarily eliminate the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm prior to reaching the path of seeing.

Hinayana Aryas on the uninterrupted path of the path of seeing who temporarily eliminated the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm prior to reaching the path of seeing remain approachers to the result of non-returner for as long as they do not achieve the path of release of the path of seeing. The moment they attain the path of release of the path of seeing they become *abiders in the result of non-returner who are Leapers*.

Approachers to the result of non-returner who are Leapers are also called 'approachers to the result of non-returner who previously separated from attachment' (*chags bral sngon song gi phyir mi 'ong zhugs pa*). They are called 'approachers to the result of non-returner who are Leapers' because they are approachers to the result of non-returner who leap - or more literally - bypass the results of stream-enterer and once-returner. They are called 'approachers to the result of non-returner who previously separated from attachment' because they temporarily eliminated the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm, such as the ninth type of mundane innate attachment to the Desire Realm, prior to reaching the path of seeing.



ABIDERS IN THE RESULT OF NON-RETURNER

Non-returners and abiders in the result of non-returner (*phyir mi 'ong 'bras gnas*) are equivalent. As mentioned above, they are called 'non-returners' because they no longer return, i.e. take rebirth in the Desire Realm, before they achieve the result of foe-destroyer (although they may still be born in the Form or Formless Realm before they attain self-liberation).

Non-returners are Hinayana Aryas who achieve the irrevocable cessation of the three fetters (intellectually acquired afflictive obstructions) as well as the temporary or irrevocable cessation of the ninth type of mundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm, without also achieving the cessation of the ninth type of supramundane innate afflictions of the Desire Realm at the same time.

From the perspective of their mental faculties, abiders in the result of once-returner can be classified into:

- 1) Abiders in the result of non-returner who are believers-by-faith
- 2) Abiders in the result of non-returner who are attainers-by-seeing

From the perspective of exertion, they can be classified into:

- 1) Simple abiders in the result of non-returner
- 2) Special abiders in the result of non-returner

From the perspective of attaining results, they can be categorized into:

- 1) Non-returners who are Gradual-Attainers
- 2) Non-returners who previously separated from attachment (i.e. non-returners who are Leapers)

1) Simple abiders in the result of non-returner

Simple abiders in the result of non-returner (*phyir mi 'ong 'bras gnas tsam po ba*) are non-returners who do not abide on an uninterrupted path that mainly strives to attain the next result of foe-destroyer.

Examples of simple abiders in the result of non-returner are non-returners who are leapers and who abide on the supramundane path of release of the path of seeing that attains the irrevocable cessation of the three fetters (intellectually acquired afflictive obstructions). Such a path of release does not strive to attain the result of foe-destroyer, for it merely rests in the state of attainment of the irrevocable cessation of intellectually acquired afflictive obstructions. Other examples are non-returners who are Gradual-Attainers, and who abide on the eighth supramundane path of release of

